IN THE SPECIFICATION:

On page 5, please replace paragraph one with the following amended

paragraph:

-- route table index field that belongs to a certain operation to be executed on the packet. Therefore, any packet most naturally plays an active role instead of a passive role of the data packets in standard routing methods upon which pre-defined operations are executed. A selector may even refer to an operation that transfers ~~an other~~ another operation stored within the packet to the routing table and thus activates it. In this way, the concept of "active packets" is naturally embedded by the invention in the classical routing concept.--

On page 6, please add the following new paragraph after paragraph three:

--**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

The preferred embodiments of the invention are described with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figures 1-3	show various prior art routing systems;
Figure 4	illustrates a control path for data packets in accordance with the invention; and
Figure 5	shows a routing module in accordance with the invention.--

On page 6, replace paragraph four with the following amended paragraph:

--In the following , a detailed description of an embodiment of the present invention, namely a routing module, is given with reference to Figure 5, which schematically depicts a ~~bloc~~ block diagram of this embodiment of the method according to the invention.

On page 14, replace paragraph four with the following amended paragraph:

--An apparatus according to the invention, namely a router, comprises the following elements:

- A device for receiving, processing and forwarding data, for instance a computer equipped with appropriate interfaces.

-An implementation of the method for data packet processing and forwarding according to the invention on said device, for instance a program stored on the computer or a microprocessor the architecture of which is such that it supports the data flow and control flow architecture of the method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 12 and~~ the invention particularly ~~that its supports~~ the data and control flow as schematically depicted in Fig. 5.--